

**WE'RE MARCHING  
TO ZION**

## We're Marching to Zion

### The return of the righteous to the Lord's house

Isaiah 2:2-4 (2 Ne 8:18-20)

And it shall come to pass in the last days, when the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hill, and all nations shall flow unto it,

And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plow shares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

### Promises to the House of Israel

2 Ne 5:86-99

Awake, awake! Put on strength O arm of the Lord: awake as in the ancient days.

Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon?

Art thou not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep;

That hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed to pass over?

Therefore, the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy and holiness shall be upon their heads;

And they shall obtain gladness and joy: sorrow and mourning shall flee away.

I am he; yea, I am he that comforteth you:

Behold, who art thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of man, who shall die, and of the son of man, who shall be made like unto grass;

And forgettest the Lord thy maker, that hath stretched forth the heavens, and laid the foundations of the earth;

And hast feared continually every day, because of the fury of the oppressor, as if he were ready to destroy?

And where is the fury of the oppressor?

The captive exile hasteneth, that he may be loosed, and that he should not die in the pit, nor that his bread should fail.

But I am the Lord thy God, whose waves roared: the Lord of hosts is my name.

And I have put my words in thy mouth, and have covered thee in the shadow of mine hand, that I may plant the heavens and lay the foundations of the earth, and say unto Zion, Behold, thou art my people.

### Promises to the Gentiles

1 Ne 3:185-188

And after thy seed shall be destroyed and dwindle in unbelief, and also the seed of thy brethren; behold, these things shall be hid up, to come forth unto the Gentiles by the gift and power of the Lamb;

And in them shall be written my gospel, saith the Lamb, and my rock and my salvation;

And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost; And if they endure unto the end, they shall be lifted up at the last day, and shall be saved in the everlasting kingdom of the Lamb;

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2 Ne 5:30-33

And blessed are the Gentiles, they of whom the prophet has written:

For behold, if it so be that they shall repent and fight not against Zion, and do not unite themselves to that great and abominable church, they shall be saved:

For the Lord God will fulfill his covenants which he has made unto his children: and for this cause the prophet has written these things.

Wherefore, they that fight against Zion and the covenant people of the Lord, shall lick up the dust of their feet;

### Promise to all who would seek the Lord

Isa 55:1-11

Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.

Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

### The kingdom of the devil must shake

2 Ne 12:23-34

For the kingdom of the devil must shake, and they which belong to it must needs be stirred up unto repentance, or the devil will grasp them with his everlasting chains, and they be stirred up to anger and perish:

For behold, at that day shall he rage in the hearts of the children of men, and stir them up to anger against that which is good;

And others will he pacify, and lull them away into carnal security, that they will say, All is well in Zion; yea, Zion prospereth, all is well;

And thus the devil cheateth their souls, and leadeth them away carefully down to hell.

And behold, others he flattereth away, and telleth them there is no hell; and he saith unto them, I am no devil, for there is none:

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And thus he whispereth in their ears, until he grasps them with his awful chains, from whence there is no deliverance.

Yea, they are grasped with death and hell; and death, and hell, and the devil, and all that have been seized therewith, must stand before the throne of God and be judged according to their works, from whence they must go into the place prepared for them, even a lake of fire and brimstone, which is endless torment.

Therefore, wo be unto him that is at ease in Zion.

Wo be unto him that crieth, All is well; yea, wo be unto him that hearkeneth unto the precepts of men, and denieth the power of God, and the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Yea, wo be unto him that saith, We have received, and we need no more.

And in fine, wo unto all those who tremble, and are angry because of the truth of God.

For behold, he that is built upon the rock, receiveth it with gladness; and he that is built upon a sandy foundation, trembleth, lest he shall fall.

### What does the Word of God teach concerning "Repentance", "Forgiveness", and "Condemnation"

The following examples are from the Word of God:

#### Repentance

Isaiah 55:7

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord,"

Forsake - Strong's number: 5800; Hebrew: `azab; Pronunciation: aw-zab'; a primitive root; to loosen, i.e. relinquish, permit, etc.: --commit self, fail, forsake, fortify, help, leave (destitute, off), refuse, X surely.

Example: 2 Chr 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name,

1. shall humble themselves,
2. and pray, and seek my face,
3. and turn from their wicked ways;

#### Forgiveness

Isaiah 55:7 (continued)

"...and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon."

Pardon - Strong's number: 5545; Hebrew: calach; Pronunciation: saw-lakh'; a primitive root; to forgive: -forgive, pardon, spare.

Example: 2 Chr 7:14-16

then will I

1. hear from heaven,
2. and will forgive their sin,
3. and will heal their land.

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Now mine eyes shall be open, and mine ears attent unto the prayer that is made in this place.  
For now have I chosen and sanctified this house, that my name may be there for ever: and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually.

### Condemnation

Isaiah 1:20

But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Example: 2 Chr 7:19-20

But if ye turn away, and forsake my statutes and my commandments, which I have set before you, and shall go and serve other gods, and worship them;

Then will I pluck them up by the roots out of my land which I have given them; and this house, which I have sanctified for my name, will I cast out of my sight, and will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations.

### Other examples found in the Book of Mormon

Mos 2:13-17

Believe in God; believe that he is, and that he created all things both in heaven and in earth;

Believe that he has all wisdom, and all power, both in heaven and in earth;

Believe that man doth not comprehend all things which the Lord can comprehend.

And again: Believe that ye must repent of your sins and forsake them, and humble yourselves before God; and ask in sincerity of heart that he would forgive you:

And now, if you believe all these things, see that ye do them.

Alma 19:12-14

But behold, ye can not hide your crimes from God; and except ye repent, they will stand as a testimony against you at the last day.

Now, my son, I would that ye should repent, and forsake your sins, and go no more after the lusts of yours eyes, but cross yourself in all these things; for except ye do this, ye can in no wise inherit the kingdom of God.

O remember, and take it upon you, and cross yourself in these things.

### Has God changed since the coming of Christ concerning Repentance, Forgiveness and Condemnation?

Luke 24:44-48

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

And ye are witnesses of these things.

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3 Ne 4:51-52

Behold, I have come unto the world to bring redemption unto the world, to save the world from sin: therefore whoso repenteth and cometh unto me as a little child, him will I receive; for of such is the kingdom of God.

Behold, for such I have laid down my life, and have taken it up again; therefore repent, and come unto me ye ends of the earth, and be saved.

3 Ne 12:29-33

And it shall come to pass, that whoso repenteth and is baptized in my name, shall be filled; and if he endureth to the end, behold, him will I hold guiltless before my Father, at that day when I shall stand to judge the world.

And he that endureth not unto the end, the same is he that is also hewn down and cast into the fire, from whence they can no more return, because of the justice of the Father: and this is the word which he hath given unto the children of men.

And for this cause he fulfilleth the words which he hath given, and he lieth not, but fulfilleth all his words; and no unclean thing can enter into his kingdom;

Therefore nothing entereth into his rest, save it be those who have washed their garments in my blood, because of their faith, and the repentance of all their sins, and their faithfulness unto the end.

Now this is the commandment, Repent, all ye ends of the earth, and come unto me and be baptized in my name, that ye may be sanctified by the reception of the Holy Ghost, that ye may stand spotless before me at the last day.

### What will happen if the Gentiles reject the fullness of the gospel?

3 Ne 7:34-45

And thus commandeth the Father that I should say unto you, At that day when the Gentiles shall sin against my gospel, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, and shall be lifted up in the pride of their hearts above all nations, and above all the people of the whole earth, and shall be filled with all manner of lyings, and of deceits, and of mischiefs, and all manner of hypocrisy, and murders, and priestcrafts, and whoredoms, and of secret abominations;

And if they shall do all these things, and shall reject the fullness of my gospel, behold, saith the Father, I will bring the fullness of my gospel from among them;

And then will I remember my covenant which I have made unto my people, O house of Israel, and I will bring my gospel unto them;

And I will shew unto thee, O house of Israel, that the Gentiles shall not have power over you, but I will remember my covenant unto you, O house of Israel, and ye shall come unto the knowledge of the fullness of my gospel.

But if the Gentiles will repent, and return unto me, saith the Father, behold, they shall be numbered among my people, O house of Israel;

And I will not suffer my people, who are of the house of Israel, to go through among them, and tread them down, saith the Father.

But if they will not turn unto me, and hearken unto my voice, I will suffer them, yea, I will suffer my people, O house of Israel, that they shall go through among them, and shall tread them down,

And they shall be as salt that hath lost its savor, which is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of my people, O house of Israel.

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Verily, verily, I say unto you, Thus hath the Father commanded me, that I should give unto this people this land for their inheritance.

And when the words of the prophet Isaiah shall be fulfilled, which say, Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing, for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion.

Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God.

### Who will be in Zion?

Isa 4:2-4

In that day shall the branch of the Lord be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.

And it shall come to pass, that he that is left in Zion, and he that remaineth in Jerusalem, shall be called holy, even every one that is written among the living in Jerusalem:

When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning.

### The grace of God through His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ

Mor 10:27-30

And again I would exhort you, that ye would come unto Christ, and lay hold upon every good gift and touch not the evil gift, nor the unclean thing.

And awake, and arise from the dust, O Jerusalem; yea, and put on thy beautiful garments, O daughter of Zion, and strengthen thy stakes, and enlarge thy borders for ever, that thou mayest no more be confounded, that the covenants of the eternal Father which he hath made unto thee, O house of Israel, may be fulfilled.

Yea, come unto Christ, and be perfected in him, and deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and if ye shall deny yourselves of all ungodliness, and love God with all your might, mind and strength, then is his grace sufficient for you, that by his grace ye may be perfect in Christ; and if by the grace of God ye are perfect in Christ, ye can in no wise deny the power of God.

And again, if ye, by the grace of God, are perfect in Christ, and deny not his power, then are ye sanctified in Christ by the grace of God, through the shedding of the blood of Christ, which is in the covenant of the Father, unto the remission of your sins, that ye become holy without spot.

### The Oregon Trail

It started in Independence, Missouri and ended at the Columbia river in Oregon (about 2000 miles). It took the early pioneers 5 to 6 months to make the journey with much hardship resulting from poor equipment, illness, and attack by the Indians. After the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1806 and other explorers had opened the way, the first emigrant wagon train did not arrive in Oregon until 1842.